

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 00822 01 OF 02 282213Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /092 W
-----282242Z 096930 /73

P R 251135Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8820
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAC
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LAGOS 0822

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB JILO, NI
SUBJECT: ILO: HOROWITZ VISIT TO LAGOS

REF: STATE 294250 (76)

1; SUMMARY: DURING HIS VISIT HERE JANUARY 18, U S; REPRE-
SENTATIVE TO ILO DANIEL HOROWITZ MADE STRONG REPRESENTATIONS TO
NIGERIANS ON OUR ILO POSITION. WHILE FMG OFFICIALS VOICED HOPE U.S.
WOULD NOT WITHDRAW FROM ILO, SHOWED DEFINITE INTEREST IN PROPOSED
MODIFICATION TO ARTICLE 17 OF GENERAL CONFERENCE STANDING ORDERS,
AND INDICATED APPRECIATION OF OUR CONCERNS, THEY WERE NON-COMMITTAL
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ON LENDINGUS GENERAL SUPPORT. MINISTRY EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (MEA)
PARTICULARLY IS RELUCTANT HAVE NIGERIA TAKE POSITIONS WHICH DIFFER
FROM MAINSTREAM OF THIRD WORLD OPINION. WE WILL FOLLOW UP WITH
LABOR AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRIES TO KEEP ABREAST OF DEVELOPMENTS
IN NIGERIAN THINKING. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S; REPRESENTATIVE TO ILO DANIEL HOROWITZ VISITED LAGOS

JANUARY 17 - 18 AND PRESENTED U.S. CASE ON ILO. MAIN FEATURE OF VISIT WAS ONE AND THREE-QUARTER HOUR LONG MEETING HOROWITZ AND AMBASSADOR EASUM HAD WITH TOP LABOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS -- COMMISSIONER ADEFOPE, NEWLY APPOINTED PERMSEC E.O. OLUWU AND B. E. UKPABI, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS DIVISION. HOROWITZ MADE HARD-HITTING DETAILED PRESENTATION, ELABORATING ON FOUR AREAS OF CONCERN CONTAINED IN SECRETARY'S NOVEMBER '75 LETTER OF INTENT TO WITHDRAW FROM ILO; HE STRESSED THAT ALTHOUGH U.S. WOULD RATHER STAY IN ILO, WE WOULD PULL OUT UNLESS WE GOT CLEAR INDICATION FROM MAJORITY OF MEMBERS THAT THEY PREPARED TO ACT TO REVERSE TRENDS OF PAST YEARS. HOROWITZ EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD BEEN DEPUTIZED BY CABINET-LEVEL COMMITTEE TO MAKE U.S. POSITION CLEAR TO NIGERIA AND OTHER KEY ILO MEMBER COUNTRIES. HE ALSO CHARGED WITH EXPLORING EXTENT TO WHICH OTHER GOVERNMENTS SHARE OUR CONCERNS AND ARE WILLING TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE IN ILO WITH THEIR VOTES. A GOOD TEST CASE IN THE CRITICAL MONTHS BEFORE THE U.S. DECISION IN NOVEMBER 1977 WILL ARISE WHEN THE GOVERNING BODY (GB) AT ITS FEBRUARY-MARCH SESSION CONSIDERS THE PROPOSED MODIFICATION OF ARTICLE 17 OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE'S (GC) STANDING ORDERS. AS THE AMENDMENT WOULD MAKE NON-RECEIVABLE THOSE PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS WHICH ARE NOT PERTINENT TO ILO CONVENTIONS OR WHICH CONDEMN COUNTRIES WITHOUT PRIOR INVESTIGATION, HOROWITZ ARGUED THAT ITS PASSAGE WOULD SAVE MANY COUNTRIES THE EMBARRASSING CHOICE OF HAVING TO VOTE FOR AN UNPALATABLE "POLITICAL" PROPOSITION OR SUFFERING CENSURE FROM SPONSORING NATIONS.

3. AT END OF PRESENTATION TO WHICH THE OFFICERS GAVE THEIR CLOSE ATTENTION, COMMISSIONER ADEFOPE
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PAGE 03 LAGOS 00822 01 OF 02 282213Z

OBSERVED THAT IT WOULD BE REGRETABLE IF U.S. PULLED OUT OF ILO. WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. WOULD WEAKEN THAT ORGANIZATION. COMMISSIONER THEN GAVE THE FLOOR TO INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS CHIEF UKPABI WHO LAUNCHED INTO DISSERTATION ON NEED TO RESTRUCTURE ILO. MAIN POINTS HIS DISCOURSE WERE THAT OLD RULES AND STRUCTURE DO NOT MEET PRESENT CONDITIONS WHERE GREAT MAJORITY OF MEMBERS ARE NEWER (LESSER DEVELOPED) COUNTRIES. WHILE TRIPARTITE NATURE OF THE BODY SHOULD BE PRESERVED, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE SENTIMENT THAT NOW IS TIME TO RESTRUCTURE TO BRING ABOUT MORE EQUALITY AMONG MEMBER STATES. IN PARTICULAR, GB WITH ITS OLD CLUB PERMANENT MEMBERS HAS UNDUE POWER VIS-A-VIS GC. UKPABI ALSO INDICATED THAT NIGERIA AND OTHERS DO NOT DRAW SAME CLEAR CUT LINE U.S. DOES; EVEN IN ILO, BETWEEN POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES. HE AGREED HOWEVER THAT DUE PROCESS MUST BE FOLLOWED. HOROWITZ RESPONDED THAT MATTER OF STRUCTURE IS COMPLEX, LONG-RANGE ONE WHICH WE, IF WE STAY, WILL WANT TO DISCUSS. DIALOGUE ON THIS SHOULD BE QUIET, NON-CONFRONTATIONAL. U.S. DRAWS BASIC DISTINCTION BETWEEN STRUCTURE ISSUE AND PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES WE HAVE IDENTI-

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TO WHATEVER THE STRUCTURE. REGARDING THI GB SPECIFICALLY,
HOROWITZ NOTED THAT MEMBERSHIP HAS BEEN EXPANDED CONSIDERABLY
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GN C WYR #
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4. DURING GIVE-AND-TAKE PORTION OF MEETING HOROWITZ
APPEALED FOR MORE INFORMAL MEETINGS RATHER THAN PLATFORM
RHETORIC AND HE TOOK A SWIPE AT REPRESENTATIVES OF THOSE
FEW EXTREMIST COUNTRIES, SUCH AS ALGERIA AND CUB, WHICH
PRETEND TO SPEAK FOR ALL G-77 COUNTRIES WITHOUT ACTUALLY
CONSULTING THEM. HE SAID THEY SO DOMINATE PROCEEDINGS BY
CREATING AN ATMOSPHERE OF FEAR THAT THE REASONABLE MAJORITY
DOES NOT DARE TO SPEAK ITS OWN MIND. HE REITERATED SEVERAL
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PAGE 04 LAGOS 00822 01 OF 02 282213Z

TIMES THE U.S. REFUSAL TO COMPROMISE INS PRINCIPLES AND
INDICATED WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOTES NOT WORDS. HE ASKED
THE FMG FOR ITS SUPPORT GENERALLY AND WITH THE AFRICAN
REGIONAL GROUP.

NOTE BY OC/T: # AS RECEIVED, CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 00822 01 OF 02 291511Z
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INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LAGOS 0822

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3. AT END OF PRESENTATION TO WHICH THE OFFICERS GAVE THEIR CLOSE ATTENTION, COMMISSIONER ADEFOPE OBSERVED THAT IT WOULD BE REGRETABLE IF U.S. PULLED OUT OF ILO. WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. WOULD WEAKEN THAT ORGANIZATION. COMMISSIONER THEN GAVE THE FLOOR TO INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS CHIEF UKPABI WHO LAUNCHED INTO DISSERTATION ON NEED TO RESTRUCTURE ILO. MAIN POINTS HIS DISCOURSE WERE THAT OLD RULES AND STRUCTURE DO NOT MEET PRESENT CONDITIONS WHERE GREAT MAJORITY OF MEMBERS ARE NEWER (LESSER DEVELOPED) COUNTRIES. WHILE TRIPARTITE NATURE OF THE BODY SHOULD BE PRESERVED, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE SENTIMENT THAT NOW IS TIME TO RESTRUCTURE TO BRING ABOUT MORE EQUALITY AMONG MEMBER STATES. IN PARTICULAR, GB WITH ITS OLD CLUB PERMANENT MEMBERS HAS UNDUE POWER VIS-A-VIS GC. UKPABI ALSO INDICATED THAT NIGERIA AND OTHERS DO NOT DRAW SAME CLEAR CUT LINE U.S. DOES; EVEN IN ILO, BETWEEN POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES. HE AGREED HOWEVER THAT DUE PROCESS MUST BE FOLLOWED. HOROWITZ RESPONDED THAT MATTER OF STRUCTURE IS COMPLEX, LONG-RANGE ONE WHICH WE, IF WE STAY, WILL WANT TO DISCUSS. DIALOGUE ON THIS SHOULD BE QUIET, NON-CONFRONTATIONAL. U.S. DRAWS BASIC DISTINCTION BETWEEN STRUCTURE ISSUE AND PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES WE HAVE IDENTIFIED--THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT LATTER MUST BE ADHERED TO WHATEVER THE STRUCTURE. REGARDING THE GB SPECIFICALLY, HOROWITZ NOTED THAT MEMBERSHIP HAS BEEN EXPANDED CONSIDERABLY OVER PAST THREE YEARS, THUS REDUCING THE PROPORTION OF SEATS HELD BY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. U.S. WOULD CONTINUE TO DEFEND NEED FOR NON-ELECTIVE SEATS BECAUSE OF CONTINUITY AND EXPERIENCE INCUMBENTS GIVE TO ORGANIZATION'S EXECUTIVE BODY.

4. DURING GIVE-AND-TAKE PORTION OF MEETING HOROWITZ APPEALED FOR MORE INFORMAL MEETINGS RATHER THAN PLATFORM RHETORIC AND HE TOOK A SWIPE AT REPRESENTATIVES OF THOSE FEW EXTREMIST COUNTRIES, SUCH AS ALGERIA AND CUBA, WHICH PRETEND TO SPEAK FOR ALL G-77 COUNTRIES WITHOUT ACTUALLY CONSULTING THEM. HE SAID THEY SO DOMINATE PROCEEDINGS BY CREATING AN ATMOSPHERE OF FEAR THAT THE REASONABLE MAJORITY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Document Number: 1977LAGOS00822
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770031-1093
Format: TEL
From: LAGOS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770121/aaaaasiy.tel
Line Count: 289
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 294250
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 01-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3513116
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILO: HOROWITZ VISIT TO LAGOS
TAGS: ELAB, NI, US, ILO, (HOROWITZ, DANIEL L)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a1759ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009